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Equal Rights

OFFICIAL WEEKLY OF
THE NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1923

Drawn by Nina E. Allender.

NEIGHBORS.

National Woman's Party: "Glad to see you back. We are coming to call next week."

EQUAL RIGHTS DEMAND IS TAKEN TO PRESIDENT COOLIDGE

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE made his first statement to the nation on Equal Rights when at 12 o'clock Saturday, November 17th, he received a deputation from the National Woman's Party who asked him to urge the passage of the Equal Rights amendment in his message to Congress. The President told the delegation in reply that he had not the slightest doubt that Congress would respond favorably to their request.

The interview was held in the East Room of the White House, which was filled with State and national officers of the Woman's Party from practically every State in the Union, and included 200 women representing every profession—home-makers, nurses, doctors, lawyers, women in Government service and business women.

President Coolidge entered and shook hands with Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, President of the Woman's Party, who stepped forward to greet him. Mrs. Belmont opened the interview on behalf of the women assembled and presented Maud Younger of California, National Congressional Chairman of the Woman's Party.

Miss Younger urged the necessity of a Federal Amendment, saying:

"In asking your support, Mr. President, we are not without precedent. We recall when it was a discrimination on account of race, how Abraham Lincoln took the lead in this fight. We recall more recently, when the question was of discrimination on account of sex, how Woodrow Wilson went personally to the Senate to urge the passage of the suffrage amendment."

Mrs. Victor Du Pont, of Wilmington, Del.; Mrs. Stephen Pell, New York City; Mrs. Frank Putnam, Milwaukee, Wis.; Mrs. Valentine Winters, Dayton, Ohio; Mrs. Harvey Wiley, Washington, D. C.; all women powerful in their own States, gave reasons for asking President Coolidge to support an amendment for Equal Rights.

President Coolidge's reply in full was as follows:

"Your presence here is a very impressive demonstration of your desire. I doubt if any of my countrymen would hesitate to assert that if the womanhood of the nation want something, they will be bound to secure it. I am personally certain that if you will present to Congress as you have done to me, your reasons why you want this Constitutional amendment, you will find them very responsive to your request.

"It is a little of a novel impression to me. I have been engaged in legislation somewhat on the other side, in Massachusetts, and nationally, of attempting to protect women from possible imposition. Something was suggested by one of the ladies here about prohibiting their employment in certain vocations that were beyond their physical endurance, but if the womanhood of the nation wants that changed, you demonstrated your ability, your capacity and your strength even before you had the vote.

"If you want some change made in the Constitution, I have not the slightest doubt that the Congress will respond to your request favorably."

Mrs. Belmont, in introducing the deputation, said:

"Mr. President, as the president of the National Woman's Party, it is my duty to present to you a deputation of women, representing every part of this country, who have come today to bring to your attention the proposed Equal Rights amendment to the United States Constitution.

"To you, Mr. President, as the head of our nation, is given the exceptional opportunity to recommend that this measure of justice be extended to one-half the people of this country.

"I beg you now, Mr. President, to allow me to present to you Miss Maud Younger of California, National Congressional Chairman of the Woman's Party, who will present the program of the Woman's Party."

Maud Younger, who made the principal speech on the deputation and presented the proposed program to the President for an Equal Rights amendment, said in full:

"Mr. President, the National Woman's Party, whose members are of every political faith, is an organization of women with but a single purpose; the removal of all discriminations against women, whether

MEMBERS OF DEPUTATION TO PRESIDENT COOLIDGE LEAVING THE WHITE HOUSE

in law or in custom. Though these discriminations have come down from the past, when the position of women was most degraded, and are not due to the men of today, it is within the power of the men and the women of today to remove them.

"It is our pride that American women have greater freedom in the United States than in any other country in the world, and yet in America there are States where a father may will away his child from its mother; where a husband owns and can collect his wife's earnings; where a woman is debarred from teaching in the public schools if married, while in more than half the States in this country women may not serve upon juries.

"And today, with the great influx of women into business, professional and industrial fields, there is a new crop of laws springing up to further restrict the activities and opportunities of women, as, for instance, in Ohio, where a woman is forbidden by law to engage in sixteen different occupations, including that of a taxi driver.

"And here I would like to refer to the decision of the United States Supreme Court, which is entirely in accord with the National Woman's Party in its decision against the Minimum Wage Law for women only. The majority opinion states briefly that, though at the outset man gained dominion over woman by superior physical strength, this dominion has continued with diminishing intensity, and that today all the trend of modern legislation is toward the emancipation of woman from the doctrine of special protection.

"The National Woman's Party has made an exhaustive research into our laws, both State and National, with all the court decisions of the sixty-odd points of discrimination, and in order to wipe them out and to prevent new ones from being made we have drawn up an amendment to the United States Constitution which Senator Curtis will introduce upon the convening of Congress. It reads: *'Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction.'*

"Our object is to remove these discriminations, whether it be done by State or nation. We shall work both through Congress and the State Legislatures. But in favor of a Federal amendment we urge:

"First—Permanence: that women may keep what they win. In Virginia, for instance, in 1916, women won equal guardianship of their children, and then in 1919 it was taken away from them.

"Second—The saving of time, money and strength of women, which would be exhausted to a far greater degree in forty-eight separate State campaigns, over many separate points, rather than in one broad sweeping campaign for a Federal amendment.

"Third—The greater difficulty of winning a State campaign, where the fight centers around each petty point, with its personal angle, rather than around a broad fundamental principle, embodied in a Federal amendment.

"Fourth—The United States Constitution is the place where all fundamental principles should be. It is the supreme law of the land, and is all-inclusive, and with one stroke would wipe out, not only the present inequalities, but would prevent new ones from being made.

"In urging your support of a Federal amendment, Mr. President, we are not without precedent, if we recall those amendments which have dealt with the extension of the liberty of the people. We recall when it was a question of discrimination on account of race, how Abraham Lincoln took the lead in this fight. We recall more recently, when the question was of discrimination on account of sex, how Woodrow Wilson went personally to the Senate to urge the passage of the suffrage amendment. And so, Mr. President, we come to you, in whom the people have vested the greatest power to shape our nation's affairs, to ask your support in this fundamental and inevitable step in human liberty.

"And now that you have heard the reasons why we shall put our entire strength behind this amendment, we ask you to help in the most practical and immediate way in which you can, and urge its passage in your approaching message to Congres.."

Mabel Vernon, of Wilmington, Del.; Mrs. John Rogers, of New York City, and Mrs. Stephen Pell, of New York City, were delegates on the Woman's Party deputation to President Coolidge November 17th.

Mrs. Victor Du Pont of Wilmington, Del., one of the Founders of the Woman's Party and a member of the Executive Committee of the Delaware Branch, said:

"Mr. President, with the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment American women acquired full citizenship, and the logical sequence is that all legal discriminations should be at once removed. To this end they will support the Lucretia Mott amendment, which they believe should be a part of the Constitution of the United States rather than a State law.

"As a strong Republican I am here to bespeak and urge your support of this amendment, knowing that with a Republican majority in both branches of Congress, and backed by a Republican President, this amendment could, and should, be passed at once, thereby saving to millions of women the time, toil and absence from home which was required to put through the Nineteenth Amendment."

Mrs. Valentine Winters of Dayton, Ohio, a Life Member of the Woman's Party and Legislative Chairman of the Ohio Branch, said:

"Mr. President, I wish to point out to you that what we are asking is only what seven foreign countries already have granted women—full equality with men under the law. With your support we believe our country need not longer lag behind."

Mrs. Frank Putnam of Milwaukee, Wis., a Founder of the Woman's Party and Chairman of the Wisconsin Branch, said:

"Mr. President, Wisconsin has had an Equal Rights law for over two years. This law, which, with one exception, removed all legal discriminations against women in the State of Wisconsin, was passed by the efforts of the National Woman's Party. The women of the State are satisfied with it and proud of it—its results have been most gratifying.

"A committee created by the State Federation of Women's Clubs and composed of representatives from every woman's State organization, met for a period of a year, and studied and investigated the results of this law. They handed down a report that this law had worked for the benefit of all women and in no instance had it worked an injury.

"We women in Wisconsin want women in other States to enjoy these rights we enjoy—so we want a Federal amendment embodying the same principles. Also we know that with the sitting of each successive Legislature attempts may be made to repeal or amend our own law—and although such attempts could not be successful in view of the sentiment of the women and the broad-minded men—still such attempts at repeal or amending would entail a great expenditure of labor and money on the part of the women. So we want to safeguard our own hard-won emancipation with a Federal amendment, which will give to women Equal Rights throughout the United States."

Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley of Washington, D. C., a Founder and National Chairman of the Homemakers' Council, said:

"Mr. President, I want to call attention to the human aspect of our proposed amendment, which treats men and women as human beings, sharing all the affairs of life under equal conditions. This simply means to give women the same opportunity for self-expression as men. All women are not mothers, and even those who have this blessed privilege are merely human beings most of the time. Granting women the vote did not bring about the millennium, but developed and trained women. So placing them on an equal footing with men, with whom they must compete in all departments of life, will further develop and train women and make them better human beings, better mothers and better citizens. The prophet Ezekiel says, 'If a man be just and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live.' How can this nation hope to live unless it does that which is lawful and right by its women?

"Mr. President, we trust you will give this amendment your support."

Equal Rights

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COMRADES

A MEETING of the National Woman's Party is always full of inspiration for the delegates but the conference held last week surpassed all previous gatherings of the Party in this quality. It was not so much a meeting of women called together from all parts of our great country, as a gathering of friends, of disciples, as it were, in the cause of Liberty. Every woman was imbued with the same spirit, every member was but part of one harmonious whole. It was almost as if you could hear their feet marching to suppressed music onward, onward toward the common goal.

Those who have questioned the possibility of sex solidarity among women could have learned much had they been present at the conference. As friend greeted friend, as hand clasped hand, a thing galvanic in the world, was born. Perhaps the greatest thing that the National Woman's Party has accomplished is this fine and genuine spirit of comradeship among women.

"Comrades, ye who have dared, first in the battle to strive and sorrow." The words sang in the hearts of all the members of the conference—they sing in our ears now, when we are far away.

"Shoulder to shoulder, and friend to friend," we shall all go forth reinvigorated, inspired anew, by the stirring experience of our two days in Washington.

WHY A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

THE Woman's Party is striving to remove every artificial handicap placed upon women by law and by custom. In order to remove those handicaps which the law can touch, it is endeavoring to secure an amendment to the United States Constitution stating:

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

There are a number of reasons for working for a national Equal Rights amendment instead of endeavoring to establish Equal Rights by State action alone, as has been the course pursued during the past seventy-five years:

First—

A National Amendment Is More Inclusive Than State Legislation.

The amendment would at one stroke compel both Federal and State governments to observe the principle of Equal Rights, for the Federal Constitution is the "supreme law of the land." The amendment would override all existing legislation which denies women Equal Rights with men and would render invalid every future attempt on the part of any legislators or administrators to interfere with these rights.

Second—

A National Amendment Is More Permanent Than State Legislation.

The national amendment would establish the principle of Equal Rights permanently in our country, in so far as anything can be established permanently by law. Equal Rights measures passed by State legislatures, on the other hand, are subject to reversal by later legislatures.

Third—

A National Amendment Is A More Dignified Way To Establish Equal Rights Than Is State Legislation.

The principle of Equal Rights for men and women is so important that it should be written into the frame-work of our national government as one of the principles upon which our government is founded. The matter is far too important to our nation's welfare and honor to leave it to the States for favorable or unfavorable action, or for complete neglect, as they see fit.

In addition to the superior value of a national amendment after it has once been established, there are various tactical advantages in campaigning for a national amendment over campaigning for State legislation:

First—

The Campaign For A National Amendment Obviates The Costly And Difficult State Referendums Which Frequently Occur In State Legislation.

Equal Rights measures passed by the legislatures must be submitted to a State referendum, when the existing discriminations are written in the State constitution and can only be removed by amending the constitution. Furthermore, referendums are frequently forced by an initiative petition, upon bills which have passed the State legislatures. No referendum to the people is necessary, on the other hand, in the case of a national amendment. Everyone who worked in the suffrage campaign is familiar with the great cost and difficulty of State referendums and of the value of a national amendment in obviating this expensive and laborious method of achieving a reform.

Second—

The Campaign For A National Amendment Unites The Resources Of Women And Therefore Makes These Resources More Effective Than When Divided Among Forty-eight State Campaigns.

In the campaign for a national amendment the strength of the Equal Rights forces is concentrated upon Congress and is therefore more effective than when divided among forty-eight State campaigns.

Third—

The Campaign For A National Amendment Takes The Issue Of Equal Rights Into The National Political Arena, While This Cannot Be Done With State Legislation.

The Equal Rights amendment can be made a national political issue, and its success can be made of interest to national political parties just as was done with the national suffrage amendment. It is impossible, on the other hand, to make a national political issue of State Equal Rights legislation because such legislation may be supported by a political party in one State and opposed or neglected by the same party in another State.

Fourth—

The Campaign For A National Amendment Forces Politicians To Take A Position On The Principle Of Equal Rights And Prevents Their Dodging The Issue As In The Case Of State Legislation.

It is difficult for politicians to oppose the general principle that "Men and Women Shall Have Equal Rights" as set forth in the national amendment, while it is easy for them to find an excuse for failing to support a particular State bill dealing with some minor point in the Equal Rights program.

THE PRESIDENT'S ATTITUDE

WHILE it was to be anticipated that President Coolidge would greet, with cordiality, the deputation from the National Woman's Party that waited on him last week, the heartiness of his response to the appeal for his support of the Lucretia Mott amendment was most heartening. The President is known to be a man of few words and of a cautious nature; consequently, his prediction that Congress will heed the demand for Equal Rights if the case is presented to that body as it was to him meant more than it would have from a less conservative man.

Ordinary prophesies are to be regarded askance, since no one can foretell the future, but President Coolidge's forecast is of a different quality. He speaks not as an individual, but as the leader of a party which is in control of Congress. When he intimates that Congress will regard the Lucretia Mott amendment favorably, the members of the National Woman's Party may be congratulated upon the magnitude of the first step taken toward Equal Rights.

THE BUSINESS CONFERENCE

THE least conspicuous but without doubt the most important sessions of the two days' conference of the National Woman's Party were those held on the afternoon and evening of Saturday, November 17th, when the practical business of the Party was under consideration. These sessions were attended by the members of National, State and Local committees, Life Members and Founders of the Party and were held at the National Headquarters on Capitol Hill. Elizabeth S. Rogers of New York, Chairman of the National Advisory Council, presided over the sessions which took up seriatum the discussion of the program for the Congressional and State legislative campaign for the coming year, the furnishing of Headquarters, the EQUAL RIGHTS paper, the program of the Inez Milholland Memorial Committee and the question of inaugurating a World Parliament of Women to deliberate upon problems of common interest to women and to aid in the movement for the removal of all the remaining forms of the subjection of women.

Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, one of the joint chairmen of the District of Columbia Branch of the Woman's Party, made the address of welcome.

In outlining the campaign for the coming year Maud Younger, Congressional Chairman of the Party, stressed particularly the reasons why a Federal amendment to the Constitution granting women equal rights with men would be more effective than State by State legislation.

Florence Bayard Hilles of Delaware, who as chairman presented the problems of the National Headquarters Furnishing Committee, met with a very generous response, several States pledging substantial support to this work.

Lucy Branham, national chairman of the Inez Milholland Memorial Committee, outlined a program for establishing student branches of the Woman's Party in every college in America attended by women, as a memorial to the renowned suffrage leader who died in the campaign of 1916.

A report on EQUAL RIGHTS, the official weekly of the party, was presented by Edith Houghton Hooker of Maryland and an appeal was made for contributions toward the support of the paper. Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, the National President, contributed $750; and other members of the conference pledged sums amounting in all to over $1700. A large number of new individual subscriptions for the paper were also secured and a comprehensive plan prepared by several state chairmen for sending EQUAL RIGHTS to all members of Congress.

A tea for conference delegates, with the District of Columbia Branch of the Woman's Party as hostess, followed the adjournment of the afternoon conference.

Promptly at 8 o'clock the business session was resumed and Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont presented the resolution calling for a World Parliament of Women. "To establish this parliament," Mrs. Belmont said, "would be difficult and a very serious work. I believe and I know that we have those who are willing to undertake it. It will give us an unparalleled influence in foreign countries and in our own. I would advise at least a year before we attempt to open such a parliament; a year in which to consider each detail connected with it; a year to send the right person to Europe; a year to have each State raise the necessary amount to send to this parliament their best representative woman or women; a year for the members of this parliament to study the situations that they will be obliged to handle.

"As to the details committees will be appointed dealing with them. As to the place of meeting every influence will be used to secure the best building until we have one of our own."

In clear, resonant tones she read the resolution and every member of the conference came to attention, realizing that the moment was one of vast import in the lives of women over the whole length and breadth of the world. At last, after aeons of written and unwritten history, the mothers of the human race were to be called together to deliberate upon concerns of vital moment to all posterity. It was an occasion singular in human annals.

Mrs. Belmont's Resolution

Resolved, That the Woman's Party shall call an International Conference of women to sit as a Parliament of Women to deliberate upon problems of common interest to women and to aid the movement to end the present world-wide subjection of woman.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed at this conference to communicate with the women of other countries with regard to such an International Parliament of Women and to make plans for the holding of such a parliament at the earliest possible date.

When Mrs. Belmont ceased speaking there was a moment of silence, as if the members were abashed at the immensity of such an undertaking. Miss Paul then seconded the resolution as follows:

"Mrs. Belmont has asked me to speak in seconding her resolution and try to explain it to you as I understand it. It seems to me that in its essence this proposition means that we enlarge our present work by joining hands with the women of every other country in the endeavor to end our world-wide subjection.

"I think that perhaps the most important contribution that the Woman's Party has made in the past has been in leading women to stand together. I have been looking all this afternoon at this banner hanging opposite with those words of Josephine Preston Peabody's: 'Standing together, women shall take their lives in their own keeping.' We realized the truth of these words in the suffrage movement. We know that they are true with regard to the Equal Rights movement. We know that they are true with regard to the movement to win complete freedom for women everywhere.

"When we began our work for suffrage in 1913 we found women striving in one State for municipal suffrage, in another for State suffrage, in another for presidential suffrage—they were divided into isolated State groups. The Woman's Party brought unity into the suffrage movement by leading the women of all States to stand together back of the national amendment.

This same unity we have sought to bring into the Equal Rights campaign. When we began this work two years ago women were

GREETINGS TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY FROM SENATOR CHARLES CURTIS OF KANSAS

To the Conference of the National Woman's Party:

I send greetings to your conference of women gathered here from all over the country to assist in the launching of the Equal Rights amendment which declares "Men and women shall have equal rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction." I will be glad to introduce this amendment in the United States Senate at this session at the first opportunity when bills and resolutions are introduced.

This amendment which will, I believe, end forever in our country, in so far as the law can, all discrimination against women because of sex seems to me of greatest importance to women all over the United States. To my mind, it is the logical conclusion of the Suffrage struggle.

It seems to me a wasteful procedure to go on scattering the energies of women, in this movement, when we can adopt again the policy you adopted in the suffrage fight, when you formed your organization to concentrate on the passage of a Federal amendment which would write that principle forever into the highest law of our land.

Since the war seven European republics have written the principle of equal rights for men and women in their national constitutions so we cannot even claim to be pioneers in this movement. Seventy-five years ago Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and their small band of followers declared that men and women should have equal rights; so it is their command that we follow.

I have always been glad of any help that I have been able to give in your work for the passage of the suffrage amendment and to support all measures for the advancement of women, and I feel that in sponsoring the Equal Rights amendment and in doing everything in my power to secure its passage at an early date I am merely carrying on the second step in that great struggle of American women for equality.

CHARLES CURTIS.

struggling in one State for equal guardianship rights, in another for equal pay for men and women teachers, in another for equal property rights. Women were working in forty-eight isolated groups for particular items on their own Equal Rights program, hardly knowing what their neighbors were doing. Today we went, for the first time, on an Equal Rights deputation to the President—women from Louisiana, from Maine, from California, from all over our land—"standing together,' at last, for exactly the same demand. Now, we have before us the proposal that we try to do for the whole world what we have been trying to do for the women of our nation.

"By 'standing together' nationally we can accomplish more than in our own States by separate action. By 'standing together' internationally we can accomplish still more. Our subjection is world-wide and therefore our effort to end it should be world-wide.

"Whether we desire it or not, the problems that concern us are coming to be international. Before this very Congress that is meeting soon, for instance, there is coming the question of the World Court. When our own Supreme Court was established it was formed in such a way that women had no place in it. It took years and years of battering on the part of women before they had the right even to plead before that court. Now we are starting a World Court, and women must see to it that women go into any World Court that may be formed on equal terms with men. Otherwise we shall see repeated on a world-wide scale what happened when our own highest court was established years ago

"Questions such as this that are common to us the world over, we can act upon in a World Parliament of Women. By 'standing together' we can bring not only the force of the women of this country, but the force of women of the whole world to bear upon raising the status of women.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS REEL

Mrs. Mary Nolan of Florida, the oldest member of the Woman's Party, and Miss Louise Barrow of Maine standing at the foot of the statue of the three pioneers of the Equal Rights movement, in the crypt of the Capitol, where the seventy-fifth anniversary of the birth of the Equal Rights movement was celebrated.

"In 1921, after the suffrage victory, we decided, as an organization, to keep on with our work as a purely feminist group, because of the fact that while there were women's organizations working in every other field, there was no organization concentrating on raising the position of women as women. Today we find ourselves in the same position internationally. There are women working internationally for peace, there are women working internationally on labor problems, but there is no organization of women working internationally with the single object concentrating on raising the position of women so that women shall control life as much as men control life.

"We have made two important decisions in our history as an organization. The first decision was in 1913 when we decided to begin an active campaign for a national suffrage amendment. The second decision was in 1921 when we decided to take up as our work the removing of every remaining discrimination against women. At this conference we are facing the third great decision—whether or not we shall work to bring together the women of the whole world to consider problems of common interest to women and to aid in the world-wide movement to end the subjection of women.

"I have been thinking over the arguments against taking this up. The only argument against it seems to be the labor it will involve. We made our first decision in 1913, and no one knows better than you, who are our national and state officers, the seven long years of toil which that decision meant, in order to carry it out. In 1921 we made that second decision, and no one, again, knows better than you, the toil that this decision has meant in order to carry it out even as far as we have carried it up to the present. I hesitated a long time before I decided to make this seconding speech and to vote for this resolution because to make such a speech and cast such a vote means that one must be willing to undertake to finish the task we begin here. This cannot be done without tremendous effort on our part. The things we have personally intended to do with our lives we cannot do—for this we must do instead. But I think that we are in a position, because of the way the world is moving, where we *ought* to begin to work with the women of every other nation, so that at last, all of us the world over will be 'standing together.' We shall than move a great deal faster, I believe, than we have, when we stood together in our isolated groups. So for this reason I second the resolution."

What was designed to be a discussion of the resolution developed into a symposium in its favor. One woman after another arose to endorse the resolution, bringing out a seemingly endless variety of reasons why a world-wide Parliament of Women should be called.

Dr. Caroline Spencer of Colorado reminded the delegates that the calling of such a conference was predicted in 1921 when the object of the National Woman's Party was phrased in the constitution. Inez Haynes Irwin dramatically recounted European experiences which led her to believe that the women of other countries were looking to their sisters in America to lead the way toward emancipation. Adelaide Johnson, the noted sculptor, endorsed Mrs. Irwin's remarks and brought home vividly to her hearers the responsibility of American women in international affairs. On the other hand, Isabelle Kendig Gill stressed the fact that American feminists have much to learn from the European women and said that she believed the feminist movement in America would gain greatly from contact with the leaders in other countries.

Among the other speakers were Elsie Hill, Sue White, Helena Hill Weed, Florence Bayard Hilles, Nina E. Allender and Dr. Louise Ball, all of whom presented interesting points in behalf of the resolution. A few questions were asked and the sentiment being obviously overwhelmingly in favor of the resolution, the question was put and the motion to adopt the resolution was unanimously carried.

Mrs. Belmont was at once elected chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, with power to select the members of the committee.

As the meeting adjourned Mrs. Harvey E. Wiley appeared in the doorway, holding aloft a Women's Party birthday cake, decorated in purple, while and gold, surmounted by seventy-five brightly burning candles. Immediately a table was drawn to the open fire, the cake cut and served, with coffee, giving the various members the first opportunity during a busy day to become acquainted and to discuss together informally the high lights of the Conference.

SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY YEAR CLOSES

BEAUTIFUL and impressive were the ceremonies in the nation's capitol which celebrated the close of the seventy-fifth anniversary year of the birth of the Equal Rights movement.

Beneath the very hall where the pioneer statesmen of America perfected their man-made government, the three pioneer women who dedicated their lives to the Equal Rights movement, Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, stand in marble. This marble, resting in the crypt of the Capitol, seemed to live and call to the women of America to rise from their lowly place to where they will stand on an equality with men, as notable women from forty-eight States gathered Sunday, November 18th, to pledge themselves to the carrying out of the program these pioneers inaugurated. At the foot of the statue of the pioneer suffragists the women voiced their demand for the Lucretia Mott amendment providing that men and women shall be equal throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction.

The inspiring notes of an organ pealed forth, and from the sweet voices of young girls, a woman's hymn of freedom wafted through the corridors and borne aloft to the halls of Congress. Then came beautiful white-clad girls with banners proclaiming the cause of Equal Rights, and behind them marched women representing the forty-eight States, bearing wreaths of laurel to lay at the marble shrine.

It was the third time in history that the home of Congress had been used by women to voice their demand for equality. Nearly a thousand people witnessed the ceremonies, filling the crypt to its capacity. The speakers, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, President of the National Woman's Party; Inez Haynes Irwin and Edna St. Vincent Millay, were introduced by Doris Stevens, who presided. Miss Millay, foremost woman poet of America, stirred the audience with a poem she had written for the occasion, and was called back to read it the second time. Mrs. Belmont declared that a "race of true Daughters of the American Revolution" had come, "with torches lighted, to burn and clear their way, marching upon the governments of men, demanding the same rights that years ago American men, through bloody wars, gained for themselves."

An eloquent appeal by Mabel Vernon for pledges brought enthusiastic responses. The first pledge announced was $1000 life membership of Mrs. George Dewey, widow of Admiral Dewey. Other life memberships were Mrs. Katrina H. Jones of Delaware and Maud Younger of California. Mrs. Jessica Henderson of Boston pledged $100 per year for as long as she lives.

THE PIONEER

Written by Edna St. Vincent Millay for the Woman's Party Meeting in the National Capitol November 18, 1923.

Upon this marble bust that is not I
Lay the round, formal wreath that is not fame;
But in the forum of my silenced cry
Root ye the living tree whose sap is flame.
I, that was fierce and valiant, am no more—
Save as a dream that wanders wide and late,
Save as a wind that rattles the stout door,
Troubling the ashes in the sheltered grate.

The stone will perish: I shall be twice dust.
Only my standard on a taken hill
Can cheat the mildew and the red-brown rust
And make immortal my adventurous will.
Even now the silk is tugging at the staff.
Take up the song,—forget the epitaph.

JANET FOUTS, GLADYS BOND AND MARY VAN CASTEEL
were three of the Washington (D. C.) girls who participated in the Equal Rights' Ceremonial held in the Capitol by the Woman's Party November 18th.

Upper left—Hazel MacKaye, under whose direction the ceremony at the Capitol was held. Upper right—Anita Pollitzer, national secretary of the Woman's Party.
Lower left—Mme. Nazimova, founder of the Woman's Party, who sent greetings to the Capitol ceremony. Lower right—Edna St. Vincent Millay, who spoke at the Capitol ceremony.

The National Woman's Party expresses appreciation and thanks for the co-operation of the following people:

Mrs. John Stahl as director of the choir, and for her beautiful solo; Mr. Charles T. Ferry, organist; Mr. Arthur Cook for his help at the Capitol; Mr. Frederick, for his assistance in decorating the Crypt; Col. H. C. Bonnycastle, for loan of chairs; Droop Music Co., for the organ, and W. B. Moses, for the loan of rugs.

ETHEL BARRYMORE BECOMES FOUNDER

ETHEL BARRYMORE is the latest recruit to the ever-growing ranks in the battle for Equal Rights.

While appearing in Washington last week in Zoe Akins' new play, "A Royal Fandango," Miss Barrymore's views on the question of Equal Rights were sounded. In answer, she said: "Why, I've always been for Equal Rights" —and immediately asked what she could do to help win the Lucretia Mott amendment.

So the first practical step taken was to sign a check for $100—thus enlisting herself as one of the Founders of the Woman's Party.

Such response from one who probably holds the most unique position in the American theatre, will succeed in sending hundreds of players rallying to the call for Equal Rights.

For the women of the theatre owe Miss Barrymore a great debt. At a time when ambitious young women struggling for a place in the theatre suddenly found themselves lacking the necessary funds to costume a part assigned them—this, at a time when they were forced to compete with those more fortunate, who were able to supply costumes, Ethel Barrymore stepped in and demanded fair play.

Ethel Barrymore becomes newest Founder of the Woman's Party while appearing in her new play in Washington last week.

It was due to her leadership and courageous stand against the custom of conducting rehearsals for weary weeks, without pay—when many careers seemed doomed—that this system was abolished. And largely because of her efforts the actors' rights were henceforth recognized as an important issue in the production of a play.

Because of this work for the men and women in the theatre, and because she has ever been a consistent feminist, Miss Barrymore is well prepared to influence the women in the theatre by urging their support for the Equal Rights amendment.

In becoming a member of the Woman's Party, Miss Barrymore also becomes a member of the Actresses Council, of which Minnie Maddern Fiske and Mary Shaw, are co-chairmen. A few of the members in this council include Alice Brady, Madame Nazimova, Julia Hoyt, all of whom are Founders, Eva Le Galliene, Jane Grey, Carrol McComas, Emma Dunn, Harriett Brent, Barbara Cushman Chalmers, Florence Nash, Anne Durnell, Grace Elliston, Madeline Lucas Freeman, Eleanor Hutchinson, Carol Kohl, Laura Sherry, Edna Brent and Madame Petrova.

TWO MILLION DOLLAR FUND

TREASURERS' REPORT, Edith Ainge, Treasurer, National Woman's Party, Capitol Hill, Washington, D. C. Auditors: American Audit Company.

Receipts of National Headquarters, December 2, 1912, to November 9, 1923, $1,229,179.45.

Contributions, membership receipts and other receipts, November 9, 1923, to November 16, 1923:

Miss Emma C. Johnson, D. C.	$15.00
Miss Nannie King, D. C.	5.00
Mrs. Philip Calpakian, D. C.	.50
Miss Jane C. Farrington, D. C.	1.00
Miss Ethel Barrymore, N Y.	100.00
Mrs. E. Balfour Bennett, Okla.	5.00
Mrs. E. Ruth Smith, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. R. Hume, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. J. Sparkhaws, Jr., D. C.	1.00
Mrs. Ora M. Penney, Kan.	1.00
Miss Ella M. Myer, Kan.	1.00
Mrs. Georgia W. Ober, Kan.	1.00
Miss Sue White, Tenn.	40.00
Mrs. L. Brackett Bishop, Ill.	25.00
Mrs. Wm. H. Earle, Conn.	25.00
Mrs. Enos Mills, Col.	25.00
Mrs. Theresa H. Shiverts, N. Y.	25.00
Mrs. Alice E. Leovy, Colo.	10.00
Miss Viola Rearick, Kan.	10.00
Miss Anne L. Bassett, Conn.	5.00
Miss Maude Norment, D. C.	1.00
Miss Alice F. Barrett, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. Russell T. Boswell, D. C.	1.00
Per Michigan Branch:	
Mrs. A. J. Costigan	5.00
Mrs. Josephine Costigan	5.00
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Mrs. Mary Rumsey Movious.	50.00
Miss Kathryn O. Butler	5.00
Mrs. Clarence M. Smith	5.00
Mrs. Frances I. Stowers	5.00
Mrs. L. Geer	.50
Miss C. Gargello	.50
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Miss M. Anderson	.50
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Mrs. W. G. Menihan	.50
Mrs. G. F. Roody	.50
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Miss Sara Grogan, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. L. F. Snow, D. C.	1.00
Miss Alma Cuty, Mass.	1.00
Mrs. F. B. Catchings, N. Y.	1.00
Sale of literature	2.80
Total receipts through November 15, 1923	$746.80
Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to November 16, 1923	$1,229,926.25

FROM *TIME AND TIDE*, NOVEMBER 2, 1923

AMONGST the most significant signs of the times in the United States has been the amazingly quick growth of the National Woman's Party. Under the leadership of Miss Alice Paul, the body of women now organized under this name had a big share in the winning of the vote in America. About two years ago this group reformed itself as the National Woman's Party, and, still under the same leadership, inaugurated a further campaign for the attainment of complete equality between men and women in every department of life, pointing out that "the feminist movement was in its inception and always has been a demand, not merely for equality in the franchise, but for equality in every field." It is in pursuance of this purpose that the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution is to be brought up in Congress early in December.

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